

# The Voice

Vol. 4, Issue 5

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photo by Spc. Angela M. Reitz

Flanked by Installation Command Sgt. Maj. Saundra A. Matlock-Williams and Military District of Washington Command Sgt. Maj. Stevenson Cuffee, Sgt. Maj. of the Army Jack L. Tilley speaks to senior enlisted leaders during his visit Oct. 12.

## Sgt. Maj. of the Army visits post

BY SGT. DENNY COX  
*SOUNDOFF!*

The Army's top enlisted soldier is no longer just a picture hanging on the orderly room wall for the soldiers and noncommissioned officers stationed here.

Sgt. Maj. of the Army Jack L. Tilley met with nearly 400 enlisted service members in a face-to-face, open forum at the Post Theater Oct. 12.

Tilley's visit was part of his tour of military installations around the world, and to talk to soldiers in preparation for his testimony to Congress in March 2001.

During the forum, he took questions from the audience on a wide range of subjects.

"There are four major issues that all soldiers have, and these concerns are what I'm taking to Capitol Hill," said Tilley.

"Everywhere I go soldiers ask about pay, TRICARE, retirement benefits and quality of life issues," he continued.

Tilley said that to resolve these issues, the Army needs to educate the public about its mission and the sacrifices of the men and women who accomplish that mission.

"Most people have no earthly idea

of what the Army does. They don't realize how fortunate they are to be Americans. We have soldiers in approximately 88 countries worldwide who put their lives on the line every day for what they believe in. It is our responsibility to show the American people what the Army is all about," said Tilley.

Once the public is educated, support for soldiers and their concerns will follow, he said.

Tilley, sworn in as the 12th sergeant major of the Army on June 23, 2000, is the personal advisor to Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric K. Shinseki on all matters affecting enlisted personnel. His focus has been on quality of life issues and soldier training.

It is this training that Tilley credits with saving his life during the combat he experienced in Vietnam.

"I was scared after half my platoon had been killed, but I was also thankful for my training," he said.

"Today's high operations tempo can take a soldier out of an uneventful garrison job one day and place him in a war zone the next. Soldiers need to stay proficient in the skills that will keep them alive," Tilley continued.

Another issue the sergeant major of the Army is concerned about is what he

calls the "I-don't-see-mode" in the Noncommissioned Officer Corps.

iNCOs need to get out of this way of thinking. If you see a soldier who needs correction—correct that soldier. If you allow the standards to be lower by ignoring obvious deficiencies then you are part of the problem," he said.

The open forum was just one part of the visit hosted by Installation Command Sgt. Maj. Saundra A. Matlock-Williams. Tilley started by meeting with senior enlisted leaders from the many garrison and partner units here.

Tilley then ate lunch with a select group of outstanding soldiers, including Fort Meade NCO of the Year Sgt. David Ramsey, at the Chesapeake Inn Dining Facility. Ramsey, a military police officer with the MP Company here, was Tilley's official escort throughout the day's activities.

Before leaving and after the forum, Tilley paid an office call to Installation Commander Col. Michael J. Stewart.

Tilley's message before leaving was, "Be proud of who you are and take care of each other. It is our sense of family and teamwork that makes the Army the great institution that it is."

*This story was provided courtesy of SOUNDOFF!*

# Common Task Training conducted

BY SPC. ROBIN TWIGGS  
HHC, 704th Military Intelligence Brigade

What would it be like for a soldier to experience a real-world situation without the skills that are necessary to keep him and his fellow soldiers alive? The answer is probably best left unsaid.

Every fiscal year, the United States Army Training Support Center mandates the tasks for the Common Task Training (CTT).

These tasks are essential for soldiers to be able to perform if the need ever arises. The most recent task added was Respond to Depleted Uranium/Low Level Radioactive Materials (DULLRAM) Hazards, which was added as a result of problems encountered during the Persian Gulf War.

The preparation to protect oneself in a spontaneous situation may seem tedious to those who have performed CTT training countless times, but proficiency with these basic soldiering skills could save many lives during a crisis situation.

The 704<sup>th</sup> Military Intelligence Brigade's CTT training was conducted this month by Headquarters and Headquarters Company at Training Area C Oct. 10 - 13. HHC was responsible for conducting the annual CTT training for all soldiers of 704<sup>th</sup> MI Brigade.

The training is usually held monthly during a five-day period. This month's training was carried out over four days. The 741<sup>st</sup> Military Intelligence Battalion conducted training Tuesday



photos by Spc. Brian Murphy

Spc. Seth Stoner, first squad leader, receiving and holding platoon, 704th Military Intelligence Brigade, receives instructions from grader Spc. Damon Shratter. Evaluating a casualty was one of the tasks soldiers had to complete in order to qualify during Common Task Training at Training Area C, Oct. 10 - 13.

and Wednesday, 742<sup>nd</sup> Military Intelligence Battalion conducted training Thursday; and HHC conducted training Friday.

An average of sixty soldiers conducted and qualified in the CTT training each day.

Twelve to fifteen cadre were involved in the training, with five additional soldiers from the receiving and holding platoon, HHC, helping out.

The training and testing lasted about five hours. The soldiers were divided into two groups, received a quick

block of instructions at each station and then were tested.

The first group went through the first six stations, while the second group performed the Land Navigation portion of the training, which generally took more than two hours to complete.

The ideal situation is when soldiers conduct their annual CTT training, they should already be proficient at Land Navigation. Unfortunately, for many of the junior soldiers, this task is one of the most difficult performed during CTT training.

Even though incorporating scenario-driven training would be difficult for soldiers of 704<sup>th</sup> MI due to time constraints, it would be an ideal goal for future CTT training.

When asked what the end goal was for soldiers conducting CTT training, Sgt. James Feldmayer, platoon sergeant, commented that all soldiers in any given military occupational specialty, not just infantry soldiers, should be prepared to accomplish the basic skills necessary to stay alive on the battlefield.



Stoner checks for responsiveness as he evaluates the casualty during CTT training.



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#### 704th MI Brigade Mission

The 704th Military Intelligence Brigade conducts continuous full-spectrum signals intelligence, computer network and information security operations directly, and through NSA to satisfy National, Joint, Combined and Army information superiority requirements.

#### Focus

To ensure mission accomplishment in an ethical environment while providing opportunities for individual professional growth and satisfaction, we must have:  
 -Competent and caring leaders,  
 -Well trained and fit soldiers,  
 -Efficient, effective unit operations,  
 -Unit cohesion and pride,  
 -Planned, orderly growth and change.

# Big Dog soldiers look to seven values

BY SPC. EMIL TESHEIRA  
704th Military Intelligence Brigade

Service is a precept, which is synonymous with terms such as benefaction, assistance, and advantage. These words are symbolic to the pride with which we serve as members of the iBig Dog pack. We realize that to serve our country should not be taken lightly, or done haphazardly.

There are seven important values by which we are guided, and we strive fervently to live up to. They are loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity, and personal courage.

To be loyal in any type of relationship is a positive step in the right direction. Nothing is considered worse than a traitor who would abandon or sell out the person or group to whom he or she belongs. It is a sign of great weakness, and has no place in the United States military. To be disloyal does not just entail speech against, or action against a person or institution. One could be disloyal by being silent when the need to speak out is stifled. Let us as iBig Dogs always be loyal to our comrades, fellow officers, and country.

Duty must be part of our psyche if we are to serve with virtue. Our first thought should never be about monetary gains, or personal upward mobility. We should always strive to be vigilant, and always ready to answer when duty calls. If that duty entails performing day to day tasks efficiently, or leaving family and friends to travel overseas to engage in combat, then that should be our commitment.

A significant value that every soldier in the military should possess is respect. We should always respect ourselves first, before others could respect us. Respect should be rendered to those in command, irrespective of personal feelings. This calls for strength, character, and service dedication. We as part of the iBig Dog team, pride ourselves in being respectful soldiers of our brigade.

We cannot truly call ourselves soldiers if we fail to give service selflessly. This is perhaps the most

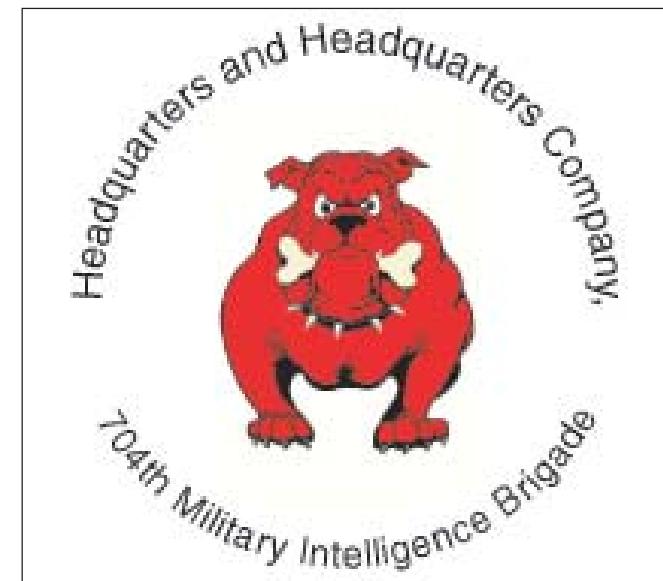
difficult value, and can often be the most challenging. It is no mean feat to get out of bed at five a.m. most mornings to engage in military endeavors. I am sure the desire to snuggle under warm covers, particularly during winter, is a great temptation. But because one of the values indoctrinated in us is to give selfless service, we rise to the occasion. This should always be done without resentment, bickering, or complaint. We may even at times report to work during periods when we are ailing physically, but it becomes natural to thrust the personal aside in place of duty. The inner reward of putting self last is much greater than any paycheck, or medal. iBig Dog soldiers consider this type of service a privilege.

The colors in the United States flag symbolize many values including honor. This value is one that every proud soldier should strive to possess. We should consider it an honor to wear our uniform, bear arms, and give our best when the occasion warrants it.

Our service in general should always be done honorably, and the dignity with which we carry ourselves, should be as outstanding as the colors featured on our flag. When we depict to others the esteem we feel as soldiers of the iBig Dog Brigade, then this would certainly serve as a model for others to emulate.

A very important personal value is integrity. This is uncompromising adherence to the Code of Ethics. This unique value represents honesty, incorruption, morality, or character. Our military can only be as strong as the men and women who serve in it. Our personal and professional lives should always be guided along the line of integrity.

Probably the greatest task, which confronts us in our personal lives, is to be true to ourselves. There will always be the temptation to want to jump on the bandwagon, or to try something new, or even turn a blind eye. But if such actions conflict with the integrity that is befitting soldiers of the Headquarters and Headquarters Company 704th Military Intelligence Brigade, then we should reflect, stand against wrong, and support the right.



Finally, we should strive to exhibit personal courage as strong and dauntless soldiers. It is easier to show fear, weakness, or worry, but if we internalize the true meaning of soldier and contemplate what it entails to be courageous, even in the face of terror, indecisiveness, or betrayal, then we will pull from inside that abundance of self-reliance, and carry it as a banner.

If we possess this outstanding value, then we will stand for right instead of wrong, speak out for good instead of evil, and take the high road in preference to the low road. This will enable us to face our adversaries with resilience.

As well-trained soldiers of the United States Army, we should always be ambassadors of good will, and faithful servants of our great country. In order to give service with virtue, the seven Army values that have been set forth as our guide, should ever be a part of our daily lives, and executed with pride.

We should never misrepresent ourselves in any situation, for to do so would mean to bring dishonor to our iBig Dog Brigade, the United States Army, and our country.

Let us always carry our virtues with us, as we proudly display our medals and badges. In so doing, we will indeed bring honor to families, friends, country, and us.



## Who let the Dogs out?

*Command Sgt. Maj. Gary L. Lowry, former command sergeant major, 704th Military Intelligence Brigade, and Col. Gary A. Royster, former commander, 704th MI, enjoy an evening out at the 704th's 1999 Holiday Ball. This year's ball will be held Dec. 8 at the BWI Airport Marriott Hotel. Tickets for the event will be available throughout the month of November. Those soldiers wanting to attend the upcoming Holiday Ball from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 704th can contact Sgt. Michael Litvack at 677-0156. Soldiers from 741st Military Intelligence Battalion can contact Cpt. David Pendall at 677-0160 and soldiers from 742nd Military Intelligence Battalion can contact 2nd Lt. Robert Bezduch at 677-0101.*

file photo

# Local soldiers scramble to golf course

BY SPC. BRIAN MURPHY  
Editor, *The Voice*

It was a perfect day. There were no clouds in sight to take away from the perfect blue skies. The weather was in the mid-80s, with just enough of a breeze to keep the afternoon comfortable, and yet, not enough to effect the flight of a golf ball. So much for blaming their play on the weather.

Fifty local golfers participated in the 741<sup>st</sup> Military Intelligence Battalion's annual golf scramble Oct. 3 to help raise money for the Holiday Ball in December.

*(T)he day couldn't have been more perfect,* said Laura R. Geldhof, event coordinator. *(T)his gave the soldiers a day off from work and a chance to participate in some friendly competition with peers.*

After registration was complete, the focus shifted to the practice area, where golfers attempted to iron out the kinks and find that 350-yard drive.

*(P)rior to the event those who needed it, which was pretty much everyone, went down to the practice area to get warmed up,* Geldhof said.

The golfers were then given a souvenir packet, consisting of tees, golf balls and ball markers.

*(B)ased on the end scores, most of the participants needed the packet after they had lost all of their balls in the woods,* Geldhof said.



photos by Spc. Brian Murphy

*Scott Walters scouts out the lay of the land prior to his putt. Walter's team, the Silent Warriors, finished third in the first flight during the golf scramble.*

The rules of the golf scramble were simple — each of the four team members hit their shot. The foursome would then hit their next shot from the best of the four locations.

*(M)y golf game was pretty much non-existent that day,* said Ricky Eden, a member of the Big Dogs team. *(I) can't chip, but I had a couple nice 100-yard putts to get our team on the green.*

Although Eden's team finished fourth in their flight, he stressed that the scramble was an enjoyable afternoon.

*(W)e just never got it going,* he said. *(I) anticipated our team doing much better. But we did have lots of fun. It also gave us a chance to interact with other members of the brigade.*

In addition to giving soldiers quality time with their peers, the purpose of the golf scramble was also to raise money for the Holiday Ball.

*(T)he ball is an elaborate, posh event the brigade puts on in December,* Geldhof said. *(I)t gives all the soldiers a reason to dress up and take their significant other out for a fancy evening. But the tickets would be a bit pricey for the average soldier, so the battalions run fundraisers to help lower the cost of the tickets.*

According to Geldhof the event was such a success, the unit is contemplating having another golf scramble in the summer.

*(T)he unit may break the yearly tradition and sponsor one in the spring,* she said. *(I)t's well*

worth the effort and we all had a good time.

So the golfers involved will have some time before the next scramble to work on their game — or their excuses.



*Silent Warrior Jason McClement drives the ball idown rangei during the 741st Military Intelligence Battalion's annual golf scramble.*

## Final Standings

### 1<sup>st</sup> Flight

1. The Temps (Randy Dick, Steven Emely, Eric Mathews, Fernando Dickens)
2. Crush Skulls (David Knight, Larry Lenard, Clete Fugate, Tom Keelor)
3. Silent Warriors (Walter Pollard, Scott Walters, Steve Dunaway, Jason McClement)
4. The Mad Duffers (Keith Merryman, Barry Thomas, Mike Hantke, Barry Frederick)

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Flight

1. Team Tobasco (Pedro Ayala, Melvin Long, Bob Reighard, J.P. Lytton)
2. NSA Civilians (Steve Newhouse, Scott Hurton, Jeff Perrey, Dan Henson)
3. Dogs of War (Carl Lamar, Brian Sladky, Alec Blakeley, Dan Heinzelman)
4. Big Dogs (Paul Kirschbaum, Rickey Eden, Scott Cleary, James Pendry)

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Flight

1. AFSC (Robert Medeiros, Thomas Piatti, Kenneth Ray, Kevin Glassford)
2. The Mighty Mulligans (Jennifer Merkle, David Pendall, Josh Kinley, Ed Prem)
3. Vigilant 4 (Jerry Sharp, David Tohn, Paul Norwood, David Kane)
4. Last to Know (Matt Schumaker, Chris Schumaker, Rockie Hayes)
5. BYOB (Peter Knight, Matt Abbruzzese, Aaron Sharp)

# New PT uniforms now available to all

BY SPC. BRIAN MURPHY  
Editor, *The Voice*

As the Army moves forward, so too does the physical fitness program. Not long ago the Army re-evaluated the way physical fitness tests were being scored. And now, soldiers have new uniforms to wear while getting into shape.

Beginning in late August, the new and improved physical fitness uniform, or IPFU, became available to all soldiers.

Reserve-component soldiers have begun to receive their new uniform as part of their issue, but the only way active-duty soldiers can get their hands on the new uniforms is through military clothing sales stores.

*i*About a month ago I went to clothing sales to buy a pair of sweats, said Cpl. Michael Bey, budget noncommissioned officer, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 704<sup>th</sup> Military Intelligence Brigade. *i*They weren't selling the old ones anymore, so I had to buy the new ones. But after having them for a little while I actually like them. The best thing about the new uniforms is that they are a lot warmer than the old ones.

No longer are there just two options -- the uniforms with or without the out-dated cotton sweats.

The IPFU consists of a gray and black jacket; black pants; black, moisture-wicking trunks; a gray, moisture-wicking, short-sleeved T-shirt; or a gray, moisture-wicking, long-sleeved T-shirt. The total cost for the new complete uniform is just over \$100.

*i*I like that you have more options with the new uniforms, Bey said. *i*Some days you might only need to wear the short-sleeved shirt. But on colder days, I like being able to wear the long-sleeved shirt if I want.

Initial-entry soldiers will receive three pairs of trunks; two long-sleeved T-shirts; three short-sleeved T-shirts; two pairs of gray sweatpants and two gray sweatshirts. The

pants and shirts will be issued to IET soldiers only, and will not be available for purchase. These soldiers will receive the IPFU jacket and pants during the second phase of basic combat training.

Soldiers will be required to have one jacket; one pair of pants; two pairs of trunks; two short-sleeved T-shirts; and one long-sleeved T-shirt by October 1, 2003.

Because the effective date is a few years down the line, soldiers will have time to wait for a clothing allowance or two before having to purchase the IPFU.

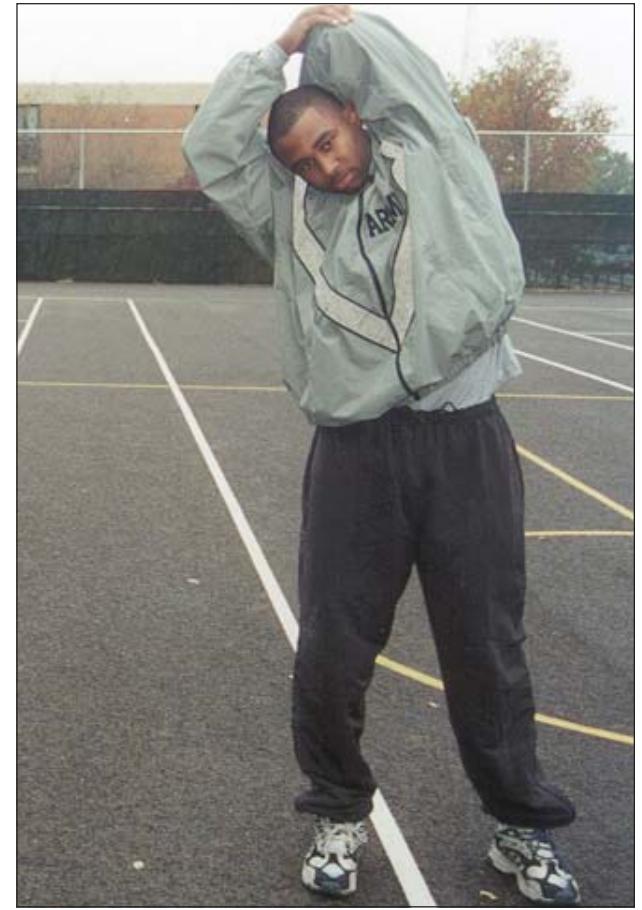
While having to pay more money for a new uniform may not be popular with all of the soldiers, the overall consensus is that the IPFU have a much more modern look and appeal to them.

*i*They look a whole lot better than the old ones, said Staff Sgt. La Donna Wicks, defense management system administrator, HHC, 704<sup>th</sup> MI Brigade. *i*The new uniforms look like something you can find in a regular department store.

But Wicks stopped short of saying the Army was becoming stylish.

Both the old and the new physical fitness uniforms should be authorized for wear in formations until all soldiers acquire the IPFU by the mandatory possession date.

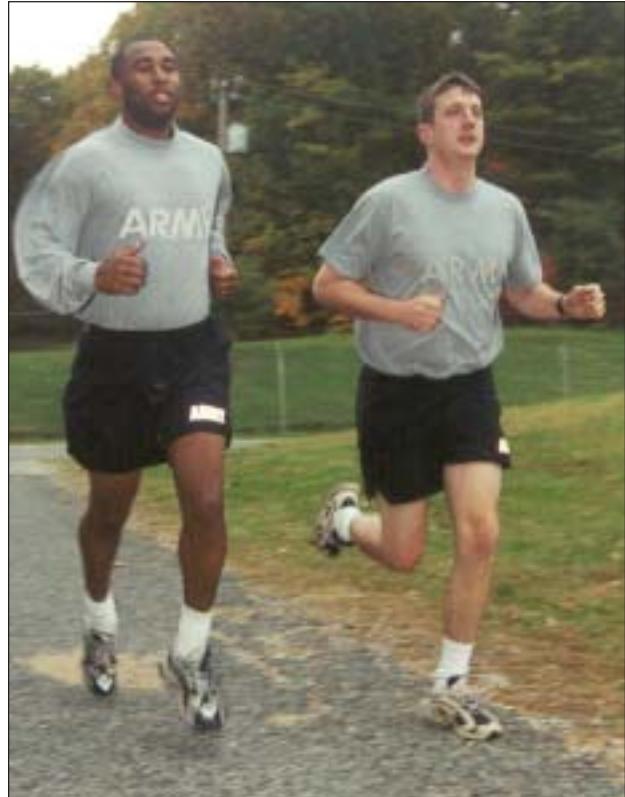
With the weather beginning to get a little colder each morning, soldiers might not want to wait for their next clothing allowance to pick up the IPFU.



*The new IPFU gives soldiers many options.*



*Soldiers now can choose to wear either the long or short-sleeve shirt.*



*i*I like that you have more options, Bey said.



*Cpl. Ryan Knott, administrative noncommissioned officer, 704th MI, was one of the first local soldiers to buy the IPFU.*

*photos by Spc. Brian Murphy*

# 704th enjoys Chaplain's Day Away

BY SPC. JONATHAN MATTHEWS  
*The Voice*

Even adults love field trips.

More than 30 soldiers from 704<sup>th</sup> Military Intelligence Brigade participated in the Chaplain's Day Away trip Oct. 25.

During the day away, the soldiers managed to see everything from the Lincoln Memorial to the Arlington National Cemetery.

According to Chaplain (Maj.) Harry Colter, event coordinator, the purpose of the trip was to increase awareness of the activities that are available to the 704<sup>th</sup> MI Brigade soldiers and their families. The trip was also intended to provide a day without stress and the worries of everyday military life.

"I stand in the middle of the mall and I look at the Capital and I am inspired," Colter said. "I love to hear the soldiers say they have seen things that have not seen before."

"I was lucky enough to attend this great event with the Chaplain and I really had a wonderful time," said Spc. Emil Tesheira, supply specialist, HHC, 704<sup>th</sup> MI Brigade.

"Anytime you can just get away for a little while and take it all in does a person good. I also think that these trips boost morale among soldiers," he said.

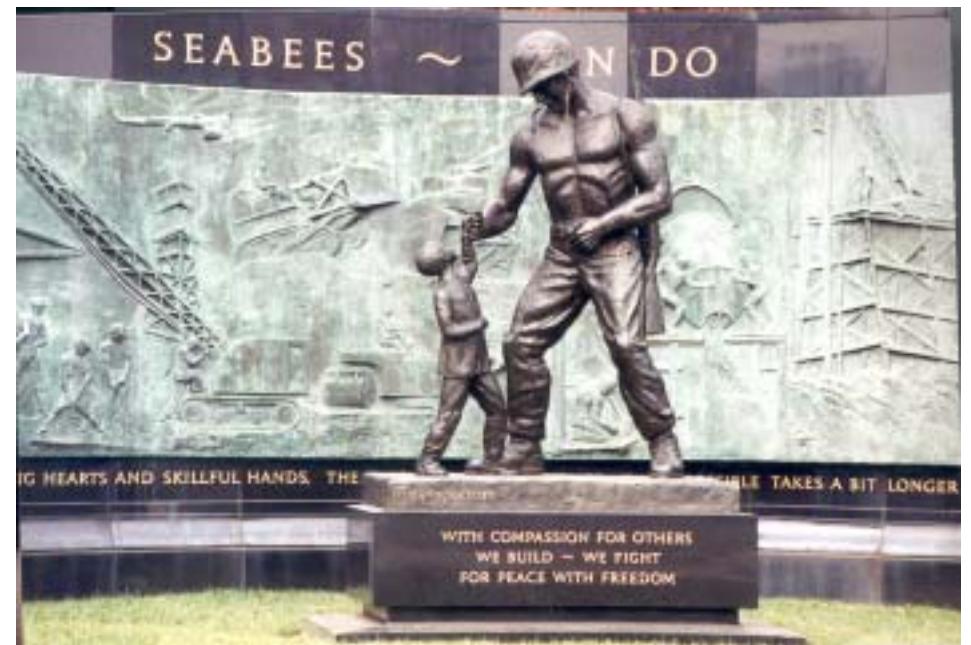


*photos by Spc. Jonathan Matthews*

*The Vietnam Veterans Memorial, located in front of the Vietnam War Memorial Wall, honors the soldiers who died serving in the Vietnam War. The memorial serves as a testament to the sacrifice of American military personnel during one of this nation's least popular wars.*



*The home of the Commander in Chief, better known as the White House, was built 200 years ago. It has stood as a symbol of the Presidency, the United States government, and the American people ever since.*



*The Navy Seabees statue is located in the Arlington National Cemetery, where more than 260,000 individuals are buried.*



*This road sign is located in the Arlington National Cemetery, and leads visitors towards the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and the gravesite of John F. Kennedy.*



*The U.S. Capitol houses the House of Representatives and the Senate.*



704th Military Intelligence Brigade soldiers look at a painting of an elderly lady at the Smithsonian National Gallery of Art during the Chaplain's Day Away.



Millions of people visit the National Mall and the Washington Monument every year. The Washington Monument recently underwent renovations.



(Above) The Lincoln Monument, which stands as a tribute to Abraham Lincoln, was completed on Memorial Day in 1922. The Lincoln Monument was modeled after the Parthenon in Athens.

(Right) It is better to have lived one day as a lion than one thousand days as a sheep is the inscription on the stone of Lt. Col. Charles G. Clinger in Section Eight of the Arlington National Cemetery. The historic cemetery was established in June of 1864 to honor American heroes.



The Korean War Memorial is a tribute to the 54,269 individuals who gave their life during the war.



## Around the Army

# Carson soldier races to Ten Miler victory

WASHINGTON (Army News Service) - Ahead of a record 16,000 runners, 41-year-old Sgt. Sammy Ngatia from Fort Carson, Colo., finished the Army Ten Miler Sunday in 48:50.

His teammate, Spc. Teddy Mitchell, finished two seconds later to earn the Commander's Cup and a first-place victory for the Fort Carson team. National Guard soldier Mike Dudley from Boulder, Colo., finished third and Spc. Phillip Castillo of Fort Carson's 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment placed fourth overall.

Former 2nd Lt. Dan Browne, previously of Fort Carson's World Class Athlete Program, still holds the race record with a time of 47:44, which he set in 1997.

This was the first win for Ngatia, who has been running distance since 1981. He credited his success to interval work this year, speed walking and trying to run away from the young boys.â

Ngatia, a six-year Army veteran who works at Carson's 10th Corps Support Hospital, ran close behind his younger teammate Mitchell for most of

the race, then sprinted ahead about 300 yards from the finish line.

Mitchell, an Army engineer, plans to run the Chicago marathon this coming weekend. He finished 10th overall in the U.S. Olympic marathon trials this summer.

More than 16,000 runners and 740 teams participated in the 16th annual running of the Army Ten Miler Sunday under bright skies and unseasonably warm temperatures in the nation's capital. The race started and finished at the Pentagon with runners crossing the Memorial Bridge, running to the Capitol Building and then looping back across the Potomac on I-395.

Naoko Ishibe of Silver Spring, Md., was the top female runner with a time of 56:40. Alisa Harvey from Manassas, Va., took second with a time of 56:49. Megan Raterman, an Army civilian employee at Bad Kreuznach, Germany, took third, finishing in exactly one hour.

The U.S. Army Europe Women finished first in the active-duty open women's team competition, with the

Fort Bragg (N.C.) women coming in second. Fort Bragg also placed second in the active-duty open men's team competition, behind Carson.

A Special Operations Command team from Fort Bragg ran 335 miles before the Ten Miler even began. Twelve soldiers left Bragg before dawn on Oct. 11, each running more than 30-mile legs of the 3rd Annual Warrior Relay. They ran to raise college funds for the children of fallen Special Operators such as Army Green Berets and Navy SEALs. They arrived at the Pentagon Saturday afternoon and met Sgt. Maj. of the Army Jack Tilley before running in the Ten Miler Sunday morning.

The Fort Rucker Fliers from Alabama placed first in the active-duty men's mixed team competition and the Defense Language Institute Speedsters from California took second.

Oregon placed first in the National Guard team competition with Puerto Rico coming in second. The 88th Regional Support Command from Fort

Snelling, Minn., took first in the Army Reserve team category. New York's Liberty Torch team finished second.

The Picatinny Pacers from Picatinny Arsenal, N.J., finished first in the government-agency team category. Fort Hood, Texas, civilians finished second.



*photo by Sgt. Cecile Cromartie*

*Forty-one-year old Sgt. Sammy Ngatia (right) was the overall winner of this year's Army Ten Miler.*

## Black beret to be Army's standard headgear

WASHINGTON (Army News Service) - Black berets, now worn by soldiers in elite Ranger units, will become the Army's standard headgear beginning next June, Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric K. Shinseki announced Tuesday.

It is time for the entire Army to accept the challenge of excellence that has so long been a hallmark of our special operations and airborne units,â Shinseki said. Adopting the berets will be another step toward achieving the capabilities of the objective forceâ of Army transformation, he said.

Soldiers will begin wearing the beret June 14, the first Army birthday of the new millennium,â Shinseki said.

All soldiers, regardless of rank or branch, will wear the beret if they meet the Army standard, Shinseki said. He added that Sgt. Maj. of the Army Jack L. Tilley would come up with a plan to establish the standard and implement the change.

Putting that beret on will become part of a soldier's rite of passage,â Tilley said. âI've got to tell you I was genuinely excited when I first heard about it,â Tilley said of the beret idea. âI think it will do a lot for soldiers' pride and image. It will probably be something of a shock when soldiers first hear about it, but it's something we need as the Army moves through transformation.â

Shinseki made the beret an-

nouncement at the end of his speech to more than 2,000 members of the Association of the United States Army Oct. 17 at the organization's annual meeting in Washington, D.C.

Along with Army transformation, he discussed readiness and personnel issues such as reducing turbulence among the force. Frequent deployments and too much time away from families cause turbulence, Shinseki explained Monday as he announced a number of measures aimed at improving stability.

He said the Army will try to limit short-notice taskings and attempt to provide change-of-station orders to soldiers one year in advance. He also would like to see soldiers with school-age children move only during the summer months, he said.

âWe are not going to place (soldiers) in the position of having to choose between an Army they love and the well-being of the family they love,â Shinseki said Tuesday.

âSoldiering is an affair of the heart,â Shinseki said as he began to explain the symbolism of the beret. He officiated a change-of-command ceremony last week for the Army's Special Operations Command. He said as he watched the troops, he was reminded that the agility, deployability and adaptability of those soldiers was symbolized by their berets.

Starting next June, the black

beret will be symbolic of our commitment to transform this magnificent Army into a new force - a strategically responsive force for the 21st century,â Shinseki said. âIt will be a symbol of unity, a symbol of Army excellence, a symbol of our values.â

Shinseki said special operations and airborne soldiers will continue to wear their distinctive berets. Soldiers in airborne units wear maroon berets and Special Forces wear green berets.

Soldiers in Ranger units now wear black berets while in their dress

uniforms and also when in garrison wearing the Battle Dress Uniform. They wear the BDU soft cap or kevlar helmet in the field.

âThe black beret has a lot of tradition,â said Maj. Gary Kolb, a spokesman for the Army's Special Operations Command. âIt's something they (Rangers) wear with pride... They hold it in high esteem.â

Kolb said the Special Operations Command supports Shinseki's decision to share the black berets with the rest of the Army.



*courtesy photo*

*According to Chief of Staff Gen. Eric K. Shinseki, all soldiers will begin wearing black berets as their duty uniform headgear as of June 14 next year.*

## Around the Army

# Computerized ID card test begins

WASHINGTON (Army News Service) ó Three Army installations will begin beta testing this month of a new identification card with an embedded computer chip containing personnel information. Barring any major complications found during testing, officials said the card will be fielded to the rest of the Army beginning early next year.

The selected Army test sites are Fort Eustis, Va., U.S. Army Europe in Heidelberg, Germany, and Yongson Army Garrison, Korea.

The iCommon Access Cardí will replace the current identification card, and officials said it will serve several purposes, including giving users access to Department of Defense buildings and controlled spaces, and enabling them to log onto DoD computer networks and systems.

*iThe CAC will radically change the way we do business in the Army,î said Dr. Linda Dean, director of the Armyís Electronic Commerce office at the Pentagon. *iIt will save our people time and money, and will streamline many labor-intensive processes. The Army is especially excited about the CAC and smart card technol-**

ogy because we view it as an electronic key to the future óliterally opening the door to endless opportunities and possibilities for us to do business better. î

Active-duty and selected reserve military personnel and DoD civilian employees at the test installations will be issued the new card that weighs less than an ounce. The Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System/Realtime Automated Personnel Identification System, known as DEERS/RAPIDS stations, will issue the CAC.

Depending on the outcome of the beta test, other installation DEERS/RAPIDS stations will be upgraded to issue the CAC beginning next January and continuing through September 2002, according to Dean. Eventually all DoD civilian employees, active-duty and reserve-component military, and eligible contractors will receive the new smart card.

Additionally, most DoD computers will get a security device where users insert or swipe their CAC to log on. This simple procedure will greatly enhance personal and system security because no one, except the CAC holder, can use a computer,

name and password, without having that personís CAC, officials said.

The Public Key Infrastructure, a component coupled with the CAC to provide secure applications, is a technology that provides for data protection through authentication and data integrity. The PKI adds another layer of electronic security, and provides DoD with a powerful weapon to foil the attacks by computer hackers on DoD networks and systems, officials said.

The CAC initiative is expected to pay dividends in several areas, officials said, such as improving readiness and strengthening personal and national security. In addition they said, many paper-based processes will become automated through smart card technology, therefore, what may have taken days to do, may take just hours with a CAC application.

Local personnel offices will provide details on how military and civilian personnel will receive their CAC.

[More about the new identification cards can be found at the Armyís Electronic web site at <http://www.armyec.com>.](http://www.armyec.com)

## Tattoo removal now available for soldiers

WASHINGTON (Army News Service) ó So your girlfriend doesnít like your tattoo? Her name is Sally, your arm reads *iMary.*î Oops, now what?

The Dermatology Clinic at Walter Reed Army Medical Center can solve the problem. The clinicís new Cutaneous Laser Center can safely remove a tattoo without leaving a scar, but donít expect this body art to disappear overnight.

*iA lot of our patients come in expecting to have a tattoo instantly removed, and thatís not very realistic,î said laser clinic director, Maj. Kurt Maggio. *iMost professional, multicolor tattoos require six to 12 treatments spaced out over a one- to two-year time frame.*î*

*iThe one very reassuring thing we can offer*

the patients is that, although it takes a lot of time and many visits to have their tattoo removed, in almost all cases we can completely remove the tattoo without scarring,î he said. *iThat represents an extreme technological advance over just a few years ago, when many physicians were attempting to remove with scarring means and very unacceptable results.*î

The center has already performed hundreds of procedures on more than 150 patients since its July 28 opening. And itís getting busier everyday, Maggio said.

*iThis [clinic] has the capability of being a tremendous benefit to both the soldiers and the family members in terms of being able to treat conditions. Many are cosmetic, but nevertheless very concerning to patients.*î

He said treatment is iextremely less costly to them than would otherwise be available in the civilian community. î

*iCivilian treatments with lasers run several hundred dollars per treatment, and almost all of our patients require several treatments. In particular the tattoos are prohibitively expensive.*î

*iWe have the most sophisticated lasers in the nation,î Maggio claimed. *iI feel that it represents a commitment by the command to have state-of-the-art medical equipment for our beneficiaries.*î*

A recent patient taking advantage of the new technology, Petty Officer 3rd Class James Huff has eight tattoos. Heís fairly happy with six of them, but decided one on his neck and one on his right shoulder didnít mean anything to him anymore. And because they are more visible than the others, he wanted them removed.

*iYou are often judged on first impressions,î Huff said. *iIt wasnít a big deal for me either way to keep it or take it off, so I decided to have it taken off.*î*

For a few seconds his muscles tensed a little as the heat from the laserís intense light beat into his

tattoo, causing the area to puff up and turn an ashen gray. *iIt definitely hurts more to have it taken off than getting it,î he said, probably wishing heíd put some anesthetic cream on it beforehand and making a mental note to do so on his next visit.*

Maggio explained how the laserís intense single wavelength light is specific to a certain component of the skin, whether itís a tattoo particle, a vein or a pigment cell, and each wavelength is tailored to correcting a particular problem in the skin. *iDepending on what we are targeting, we use a specific wavelength of light that, amazingly, largely leaves the rest of the skin alone. Itís very high tech.*

*iMost of our patients are self-referred for the tattoos. Most have outgrown their tattoos and they want them off,î Maggio said. *iMany of them are in conspicuous areas and many of our patients have special duty, making their conspicuous tattoos essentially unacceptable.*î*

He said the clinicís number one priority for laser procedures is active duty service members who violate their service-specific tattoo policy. Second priority is active duty or TRICARE Prime patients who have a condition that is functionally or cosmetically significant that is amenable to laser. And third priority, is elective cosmetic removal of tattoos, birthmarks, leg veins or facial veins.

*iWeíve always had a need to correct certain blood vessel birth marks, tattoos, facial veins, leg veins, regular pigmented birth marks and scars,î Maggio said. *iOver the years, the treatment for these has evolved to the point where now, various laser systems are the treatment of choice for most of those conditions.*î*

Maggio said laser clinic patients are treated outpatient with local anesthesia, *inan in-and-out office procedure usually requiring 20 minutes or less.*î He anticipates about two or three thousand laser procedures a year with the clinicís new main laser alone.



photo by Spc. Brian Murphy

Spc. Kenneth Morrison, a personal actions clerk, HHC 704th Military Intelligence Brigade, shows his love for his country through his tattoo.

## Around Town

# Professional sports closer than some think

BY SPC. BRIAN MURPHY  
*Editor, The Voice*

For those who love professional sports, but hate paying outrageous sums of money to attend games, there is an alternative.

Just minutes away from Fort George G. Meade in Odenton is the Skate Nation of Piney Orchard, which is the practice facility for the National Hockey League's Washington Capitals.

For years the Capitals have been known as one of the most fan-friendly pro sports organizations, and one visit to Skate Nation shows why.

As the players left the ice at the conclusion of a recent practice, each made his way over to the large crowd of fans and children. Players then signed autographs, shook hands and posed for photos with the fans.

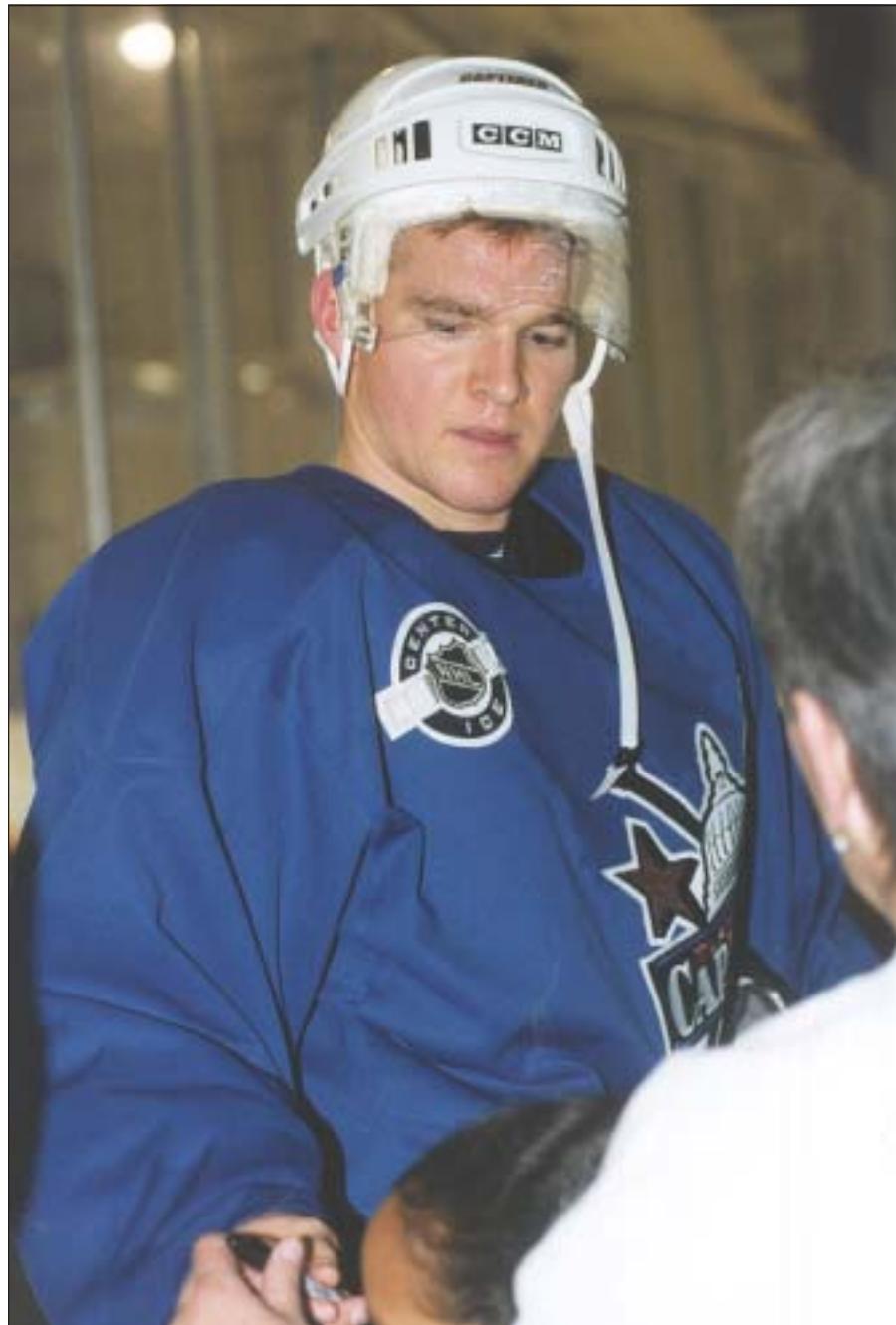
In addition to hosting one of the premier teams in hockey, Skate Nation also offers several different levels of hockey from beginners to novice, a figure skating program and open skate sessions for those who just want to take a date for a skate.

Those interested can call (410) 672-7013 for more information.



*photos by Spc. Brian Murphy*

*Washington Capitals center Kris Beech signs an autograph for a junior fan after practice. The 19-year-old is enjoying his first season in the National Hockey League.*



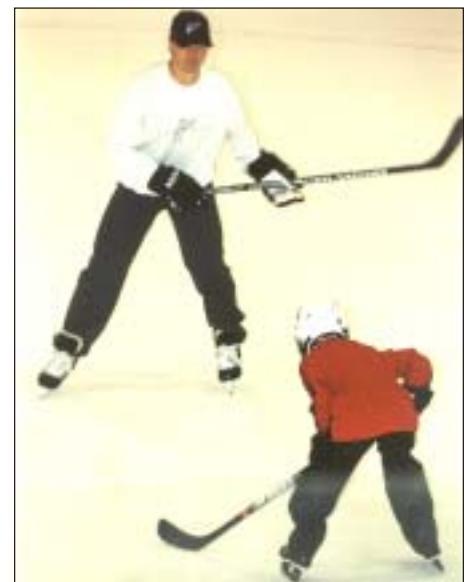
*Capitals center Jeff Halpern, a Potomac, Maryland native, signs autographs following practice. The second-year center is the only player in the NHL who was born in the state of Maryland.*



*Halpern blasts a shot on goal during a practice at Skate Nation of Piney Orchard.*



*Capitals enforcer Craig Berube waits on his teammate to make a move to the net before making his pass.*



*Capitals right wing Peter Bondra spends time on the ice with his son after the conclusion of practice.*

# SAFETY BRIEF

BY 1ST LT. ANTIONETTE N. RAINY  
SAFETY OFFICER

Webster's Dictionary defines safety as, "to protect against failure, breakage, or accident."

Safety is an often-misunderstood profession- considered a necessary evil, or a career field that most people have little or no understanding of. Well, most importantly, safety is about common sense.

Our mission and goals are simple: to reduce mishaps and to instill safety awareness in the thoughts and minds of Army personnel. These go hand in hand. If your thought process includes safety, mishap reduction is auto-



matic. If you take five seconds to consider what risk and injuries you may incur accomplishing a task, then you've implemented a quick Operational Risk Management (ORM) process, and possibly eliminated injury to yourself or a co-worker. Your task could be anything from refueling an aircraft, to participating in a unit intramural sport, to driving home from work. The process is the same in any activity, on or off duty.

How do we instill safety awareness? We have several ways to accomplish this. Articles such as this are an easy way to teach awareness. Supervisors' Safety Training, a requirement for newly appointed supervisors. Visibility is the key to awareness. If we consistently provide information and guidance to your unit, your safety awareness will increase.

The education process is two-fold. When we visit your shops and work areas, we're there to learn from

you, the unit or area experts, what safety concerns or hazards are associated with your job or work area and are currently important to you. Our job is to protect you. By identifying hazards and deficiencies in your shops and offices, we've reduced the possibility of mishaps occurring in one that could involve you.

Consider this, if you're about to start the time on a downed power line and didn't take the time to conduct a safety inspection of your Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), you wouldn't notice if your PPE was damaged. You've just jeopardized lives.

By identifying and correcting hazardous conditions during these inspections, before mishaps happen, we are achieving one of our goals of mishap prevention.

I can't stress enough that supervisors are the keys to successful safety programs. You have firsthand knowledge of day-to-day shop operations. You must ensure regulatory guidance is available to your personnel, provide adequate training to personnel in job safety, fire prevention and protection, and

enforce compliance with occupational safety and health guidelines.

The roles and responsibilities of the supervisor will continue to increase as the operation's tempo increases and manning continues to decrease.

As these factors grow, the impact safety has on mission accomplishment becomes even more paramount.

If you're involved in a mishap and lying in the hospital or at home on convalescent leave; think of the impact your absence has on your unit, your shop and your co-workers.

Someone has to fill in while you're missing in action. Sure, you're still getting paid, but someone could even deploy in your place because of your momentary lapse in judgment.

Hopefully you've gained some insight about the safety career field and our goals, our mission and our responsibilities to you. Whether you turn wrenches or fly a desk for a living, safety should always be a priority in your day-to-day activities. To understand what we do is simple; we are there to help.

## CIVILIAN'S CORNER

BY CHARLES KELLER  
BRIGADE SENIOR STAFF-SVILLIAN

### THRIFT SAVINGS PLAN:



The C Fund lost 5.27% for the month ending September 30, 2000, but has earned 13.19% for the 12 months ending September 30, 2000. The F Fund gained 0.64% for the month and has gained 7.05% for the 12-month period. The G fund gained 0.49% and 6.54%, respectively.

The TSP will start offering the S (Small Capitalization Stock Index Investment) and I (International Stock Index Investment) funds May 1, 2001. This change will be implemented whether or not the new record-keeping system is available. Other enhancements to TSP (daily valuation, early loan repayments, etc.) will not be available until the new system is in place. No date has yet been set for implementation.

Congress passed House Resolution 208, sponsored by Representative Constance Morella (R-MD). This bill allows employ-

ees to rollover other retirement plans into the TSP, with some restrictions. It will also allow new employees to begin contributing to the TSP immediately, although government matching funds will not start until the second open season after they are hired. HR 208 also prevents lump sum payments to a retiree without notification of the spouse or former spouse of the employee.

The next open season runs from November 15, 2000 through January 31, 2001. Remember, all changes must be submitted through the Army Benefits Center-Civilian rather than the CPAC.

### EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:

On October 12, 2000, President Clinton signed Executive Order 13171, entitled "Hispanic Employment In The Federal Government." The goal of the new Executive Order is to improve the representation of Hispanics in Federal employment, consistent with the merit system principles and veterans preference criteria. Noting that Hispanics remain underrepresented in the Federal workforce, comprising only 6.4 percent of the Federal civilian workforce, approximately

half their representation in the civilian labor force, the E.O. 13171 calls for federal agencies, among other efforts, to (1) provide a plan for recruitment, (2) assess and eliminate any systemic barriers to effective recruitment, (3) consider appointing Hispanic Federal executives to rating, selection, performance review, and executive resources panels and board, (4) and improve outreach efforts to increase the number of Hispanic candidates in the SES selection pool. OPM is charged with issuing regulations consistent with the E.O. within 180 days.

Within 60 days from the E.O., OPM must establish an Interagency Task Force that will meet semi-annually to assess compliance, recommend further actions to eliminate Hispanic underrepresentation in the federal workforce, and issue an annual report on agencies' progress in this area.

### HEALTH INSURANCE:

Open season for the Federal Employee Health Benefits Program runs from mid-November to mid-December 2000.

### LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE:

In the first new benefit for federal employees since the Thrift Savings Plan, President Clinton signed the bill enacting Long-Term Health Care Insurance. The bill requires a program to be in effect no later than 1 October 2002. The program will cover (not all inclusive) nursing home care, home health care, assisted living facilities and adult day care. Employees, and spouse, who enroll at their initial opportunity, will have minimal current health questions. Later enrollees and other eligible relatives will undergo more detailed screening.

Participants will be required to pay 100% of the premiums, there will be no government contribution. These premiums will not be on a pre-tax basis, but the benefits received will not be taxable. Cost is to be determined and will be based on services/coverage selected. OPM estimates that an employee who is 35 at time of enrollment will pay \$150 to \$1,000 per year, a 45 year old \$250 to \$2,000, a 55 year old \$550 to \$2750 and a 65-year old over \$1,000.

The legislation also states that coverage is not guaranteed. Individuals who do not meet the underwriting standards will not receive coverage.

# Fort Meade hosts Haunted Trail



photos by Spc. Brian Murphy

*The sign of the Apocalypse: Former basketball star Dennis Rodman, played by Sgt. Howard Culpeper, spanish linguist, Company C, 741st Military Intelligence Battalion and iFather;î Sgt. 1st Class Michael Price, software analyst, Company A, 741st MI Brigade, spend some quality time together before the Haunted Trail.*

BY SPC. BRIAN MURPHY  
Editor, *The Voice*

Some of the scariest sights imaginable were there ó insane asylum escapees, chain saw-toting serial killers and Dennis Rodman. All there for the same reason; to frighten poor and innocent victims during the 704<sup>th</sup> Military Intelligence Brigadeís Haunted Trail and Halloween Party at Building 3185 Oct. 27.

In addition to scaring lots of children, funds were raised for the 704<sup>th</sup> MIís annual Military Ball to be held this December.

According to Spc. James Bartlett, one of the event coordinators, Company C, 741<sup>st</sup> Military Intelligence Battalion, more than 100 locals visited

the Haunted Trail and left scared and satisfied.

iThis blew away last yearís,î he said. iWhen we brought the idea up, there were quite a few skeptics. The general feeling was that we were in over our heads. But it went better than expected. We had a large number of volunteers who put forth the time and effort to make this a success.î

The adventure started with a briefing from a policeman, informing the groups that several individuals had escaped from a local insane asylum. During the trek down the Haunted Trail, visitors were taken through several different sections, including a graveyard, a iBlair Witch Project type section,î a ritualistic area, complete with candles and individuals looking to make a sacrifice or two. Just when the group thought they had made it to safety and the Haunted Trail was complete, two



*iDeath,î a.k.a. Sgt. 1st Class John Klinger, platoon sergeant, Company C, 741st MI Battalion, greets the Haunted Trail visitors Oct. 27th.*

more evil henchmen jumped out, attacked the tour guide and dragged their victim back onto the trail.

According to Spc. Jason McCoy, orderly room clerk, Company C, 741<sup>st</sup> MI Brigade, the role players did such a great job they even scared their fellow volunteers.

iMore than a few times we managed to scare the guides too,î McCoy said. iEveryone did a really good job and we all had a lot of fun.î

The goal was for everyone to have a good time, raise some money and to scare a few people.

iWe accomplished our mission,î Bartlett said.  
iWe'll definitely do this again next year.î

McCoy agreed.

iThis is something that everyone definitely wants to do again next year,î he said. iThere are people already planning next yearís Haunted Trail.î



## VISION STATEMENT

704th Military Intelligence Brigade



**Be the premier Army team providing full-spectrum signals intelligence and operational support to warfighters and national command authorities *îHERE AND EVERYWHERE.î***